



Newton Flotman Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 30 November 2021 at 6:30pm

Present: Bob McKelvey (Chairman) Julie King (clerk)
Paul Weeks
Bruce Turnbull

Members of the public – one

1 Apologies for Absence
None.

2 Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations
None.

3 Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 16 August 2021
These were agreed as a true record of proceedings with no amendments.

4 Public Participation
None.

5 Planning application:

- a 2021/2495 Land north and south of Brick Kiln Lane
Installation of a solar farm comprising: ground mounted solar panels, access tracks; inverter/transformers, substation; storage, spare parts and welfare cabins, underground cables and conduits, perimeter fence; CCTV equipment, temporary new site entrance and access track, temporary construction compounds, and associated infrastructure and planting scheme.

Concern was expressed regarding loss of farmland which had previously provided a source of food and the clay soil retained moisture. However, it was noted that the proposed development would provide 'green' electricity and that often grazing occurred under and between the solar panels. Whilst this was a large area, with the necessary hedging it would largely be unseen.

Councillors were keen that a change of use didn't occur and that when the solar farm was decommissioned, the site didn't become brownfield or transferred to industrial use.

It was agreed to support the application however to express that the parish council would not expect the approval of this application to permanently change the purpose of the land for the future. If no longer required as a solar farm, the

parish council would expect the land to return to agricultural use.

- b 2021/2291 Harvest Farm, Brick Kiln Lane
113.4kWp ground mounted solar array.

It was agreed to support the application.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm